



# *Wildland Fire Updates*

July 7, 2013  
Last Updated: 8:00 a.m.

Contacts  
Report Fires: 911  
AFS/DOF Public Affairs: (907) 356-5511

*Updates are provided as significant changes in activity occur.*

## **7/7 Evacuation Watch for MP 14-32 Chena Hot Springs Road**

**Stuart Creek 2 Fire (#280)** – An Evacuation Watch, issued by the Fairbanks North Star Borough, remains in effect for those living in the area of Mile 14 to Mile 32 of the Chena Hot Springs Road. An Evacuation Watch is an advisory intended to inform those living in the affected area of the possibility of an evacuation so they can make appropriate preparations. Those who need to evacuate livestock, sled dogs, and other animals can take them to the Tanana Valley Fairgrounds.

The Stuart Creek 2 Fire is 40,247 acres. A Type-1 Incident Management Team (McGowan) has assumed command of the fire. The fire is approximately four miles from the Chena River near milepost 26. Growth Saturday occurred predominantly on the northeast, northwest and southwest portions of the fire. Crews have positioned pumps and hoses to protect structures on Chena Hot Springs Road and continue to create defensible space at Two Rivers and Pleasant Valley.

An additional six hand crews will be added on the fire-line today. Aerial operations will continue today when weather and smoke cover allow. Warming and drying is predicted for the fire area today. Increased fire activity was observed starting yesterday morning and will continue into today.

Winds are forecasted from the south today. Progress was made Saturday in dozer-line construction in the southwest corner of the fire and line construction will continue today. Smoke impacts continue to affect surrounding communities and at times the ability of fire managers to assess real-time fire progression.

Additional Information on emergency preparedness is available from the Fairbanks North Star Borough <http://www.co.fairbanks.ak.us/EmergencyOperations/default.htm>

## **7/7 Skinny's Road Fire (#388) –The Fire Is 100 Percent Contained and the Parks Highway Is Open**

The 1,806-acre fire is now 100 percent contained. The fire is near Mile 238 of the Parks Highway. The Parks Highway is open and it is safe to travel the road without a pilot car. Travelers are reminded to use caution when driving through smoky conditions by driving with headlights on and watching for fire equipment and firefighters. All hot-shot crews have been released from this fire and will be assigned to other fires. Personnel will continue to secure interior unburned islands, mop-up, and back-haul supplies.

Fire updates may be available on <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/3456/>. A Temporary Flight Restriction is in place over Skinny's Road Fire to provide a safe environment for firefighting. More info: <http://tfr.faa.gov/tfr2/list.html>.

## 7/7 Moon Lake (#401)

The fire is 15,754 acres. Decreased acres were to better mapping. The fire is actively backing on the west and south flanks, but continues to move north and northwest in the direction of Mansfield Lake. The fire will continue to back toward the Tanana River. Crews continue structural protection at Mansfield Village, cabins on the eastside of the Tanana River, Cathedral Rapids, and Fireweed Subdivision and mopping-up the southeast corner of the fire. Crews are constructing saw-line from the Tanana River north to the stop the movement of the fire. Areas of heavy blow-down are making containment efforts difficult.

Active fire behavior with moderate rates of fire spread with group tree torching and interior burning are expected. There is a warming and drying trend forecasted for the next few days with winds from the south and southwest continuing to push the fire to the northeast.

**Alaska Highway Conditions** – The Alaska Highway is open and not affected by fires in the Tok Area. For information about the Moon Lake Fire and other fires in the Tok area managed by the Alaska Type 2 Incident Management Team, visit <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/3459/>. Those fires include the Moon Lake (#414), Tetlin Junction (#401), Dennison Fork (#300), Billy Creek (#357), Ladue Fork (#386), South Junction Ladue (#448) and Big Timber Creek (#449).

It is very important that homeowners take time to create defensible space. The Alaska Firewise brochure provides guidelines for emergency preparedness and measures that can be taken to prepare a home and property for wildland fire <http://forestry.alaska.gov/pdfs/firewise09.pdf>.

Pilots! Check for Temporary Flight Restrictions at <http://tfr.faa.gov/tfr2/list.html>.

## 7/7 – Fire Information Update

A total of **94** fires are active statewide, according to the Alaska Interagency Coordination Center. A total of **442** fires have burned **1,967,316** acres so far this year; **11** fires are staffed.

**Alaska Highway Conditions** – The Alaska Highway is open and not affected by fires in the Tok Area. For information about the Moon Lake Fire and other fires in the Tok area managed by the Alaska Type 2 Incident Management Team, visit <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/3459/>. Those fires include the Moon Lake (#414), Tetlin Junction (#401), Dennison Fork (#300), Billy Creek (#357), Ladue Fork (#386), South Junction Ladue (#448) and Big Timber Creek (#449).

## 7/7 Smoke Impacts Interior Alaska

Smoke from numerous fires burning statewide is visible throughout much of the state. Smoke is expected to persist in the Interior this week. In general, in areas where smoke impacts roadways, motorists are asked to use caution, slow down, and drive with their headlights on. Information on travel conditions and fire-related road closures can be found at <http://511.alaska.gov>.

Keep informed of local fire information sources and air quality reports. The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation has smoke information at <http://www.dec.state.ak.us/air/am/smoke.htm> and <http://dec.alaska.gov/air/smokemain.htm>. For “Frequently Asked Questions” visit [http://www.dec.state.ak.us/air/smoke\\_qa.htm](http://www.dec.state.ak.us/air/smoke_qa.htm).

## Information Gathering/Additional References

[www.inciweb.nwcg.gov](http://www.inciweb.nwcg.gov)

[www.twitter.com](http://www.twitter.com)

Alaska Fire Service account: @BLM\_AFS

Alaska Division of Forestry account: @AK\_Forestry

Bureau of Land Management account: **@BLMALaska**  
National Park Service account: **@AlaskaNPS**  
US Fish and Wildlife Service account: **@USFWSAlaska**  
Alaska Fire Consortium: **@AKfirescience**

#### [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)

BLM Alaska Fire Service account: **BLM Alaska Fire Service**  
Alaska Division of Forestry account: **AK.Forestry**  
Bureau of Land Management account: **BLMALaska**  
National Park Service account: **AlaskaNPS**  
US Fish and Wildlife Service account: **USFWSAlaska**

#### [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)

Alaska Division of Forestry account: **AlaskaDNRDOF**  
National Park Service account: **AlaskaNPS**

- Alaska Interagency Coordination Center: <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/>
- Map of Current Fires: <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/predsvcs/maps.php>
- Alaska Situation Report: <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/content/aicc/sitreport/current.pdf>
- National Fire Situation Report: <http://www.nifc.gov/nicc/sitreprt.pdf>
- Interagency Newsroom (Media Guide): <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/newsroom.php>
- Alaska Wildland Fire Coordinating Group - Education and Reference Materials:  
<http://fire.ak.blm.gov/administration/awfcg.php>
- Alaska Fire Consortium: <http://akfireconsortium.uaf.edu>
- Protect your home and property!: <http://firewise.org/> and
- <http://forestry.alaska.gov/pdfs/firewise09.pdf>
- Department of Environmental Conservation (Smoke Concerns):  
<http://www.dec.state.ak.us/air/am/smoke.htm>
- Department of Transportation (Road Closure Info): (907) 451-2240, <http://511.alaska.gov/>
- BLM Alaska Fire Service: <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/afs/>
- Alaska Division of Forestry: <http://forestry.alaska.gov>
- Alaska Division of Forestry (Burn Permit Info): <http://forestry.alaska.gov/burn/>
- National Parks Service: <http://www.nps.gov/akso/nature/fire/>
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife: <http://www.fws.gov/fire>
- USDA Forest Service: <http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/>
- Anchorage Fire Department: [www.muni.org/fire](http://www.muni.org/fire)
- National Weather Service: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/>
- Temporary Flight Restriction Information: <http://tfr.faa.gov/tfr2/list.html>
- Federal Aviation Administration: <http://www.faa.gov/>

**## AICC Wildland Fire Update is compiled by Alaska Division of Forestry and BLM Alaska Fire Service ##**